

From: Walters, Carmel I -FS

Location: Forest Service Yates Building, McArdle Room, 1st Floor off lobby, call-in

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

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Importance: High

Subject: Canceled: POSTPONED: EJ Rural Communities Meeting

Start Date/Time: Thur 2/9/2017 6:00:00 PM

End Date/Time: Thur 2/9/2017 7:30:00 PM

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The February meeting of the Rural Communities Focus Area has been postponed until April. We will meet as scheduled on April 13 at 1 pm ET and discuss the second action item from our January meeting:

(2) Convene facilitated dialogues focusing on place-based rural community needs whereby community/neighborhood organizations and other stakeholders present their problem/need/solution to a panel of Rural Committee members who offer connections to programs with resources. Pilot this service for EJ organizations/networks in Appalachia. Develop engagement mechanism that allows for in person meetings and also meetings for communities in remote locations (e.g., using libraries and other federal-network public buildings).

As we discussed at our January meeting, the Rural Communities FY17 goals and actions include the following:

Goals:

(2) Enhance multi-agency support : *Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to provide assistance as needed to address environmental justice issues.*

(3) Advance interagency strategies - *Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies and activities*

The "connections" item described above fits well into our goal to advance interagency strategies.

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